



Wisdom

by
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*“And before the throne there was, as it were, a sea of glass like crystal; and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind. And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord God, The Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come.” **Revelation 4:6 & 8 NAS***

If we had time in this article, we could show, by comparing Scripture with Scripture, that these four living ones are a picture of faithful believers that have entered into their heavenly inheritance. Every believer will enjoy a certain degree of the glories of Heaven, but this group, along with the 24 elders, occupy the closest place to the Lamb of God. The 24 elders have crowns and thrones to reign jointly with Christ in His

throne. The four living ones are in the midst of the throne and exercise authority with Jesus. Crowns and the privilege of reigning jointly with Christ are promised in the Bible as rewards to those believers that are diligent and faithful to allow God to work in them and through them. The Bible also warns that carnality and indifference rob God's people of these rewards.

There are many lessons that we can learn from studying the description of the appearance of these living ones. In this article though, I want to notice just one of their outstanding characteristics. They are “*full of eyes.*”

In the Bible, the eye symbolizes understanding or wisdom. In *Ephesians 1:18* Paul prays that the eyes of our understanding may be enlightened. Knowing this, we can understand that those who will obtain to this privileged place of the four living ones will be very wise in their understanding of the will of God. How can we become as wise as these four living ones? To find the answer let's leave, for a moment, the mystical description of John's vision and read about the practical instruction of Proverbs.

“He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot. Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will

increase in learning. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.” Proverbs 9:7 - 10 “He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding. The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.” Proverbs 15:32 & 33 KJV.

Here we see that wisdom has a whole lot to do with our attitude toward correction and instruction. This principle pertains to natural wisdom as well as to spiritual. Children need to apply this truth in the home with their parents and at school with their teachers. Even we adults should apply this in our work and daily lives. But without a doubt, the most important application of this truth is in connection with the correction and instruction of the Word of God. *“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom”* The four living ones of Revelation became so wise by submitting themselves to the correction and instruction of the Bible. If we want to obtain to that intimate place of fellowship with the Son of God, that is what we must do as well.

Sadly, many times we reject the wisdom that comes from the correction and instruction of the Word by making excuses. How do you react when the Spirit convicts you of something in your heart or life that is not pleasing to God? Many blame someone else for their disobedience rather

than receive the correction. They say, "I don't go to church anymore because someone offended me or insulted me." "I don't serve the Lord anymore because there are so many hypocrites and I don't want to be just one more." It always seems to be someone else's fault that we don't do what we ought to do or that we do and think what we should not do or think. There is no greater hypocrite than the one that confesses Jesus to be Lord and then does not obey Him or serve Him.

"But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God. So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God." **Romans 14:10 & 12 NAS** Of course there are hypocrites in the church and there are those who offend us but what does that have to do with our obedience to the Lord? Each one will give an account of himself, not of his brother and his faults. If God is speaking to you in His love and if He wants to correct something in your life that is not pleasing to Him, don't make excuses why you can't receive His correction or obey His leading. Submit yourself to the correction of your loving Father and you will be wise.

Pride is another reason why so many refuse to receive the correction of the Word of God. Many that live in rebellion against the Word have the attitude of - "What have I done?" In **Malachi**

1:6 - 14 we have a perfect example of this attitude. If the Bible says that a certain thing is sinful and destructive, don't call God a liar by saying that there is nothing wrong in doing that thing. We have to recognize our failings and then humble ourselves and repent of them and thus we will be forgiven, restored and wise.

David is a good example of how to be a wise overcomer. David sinned greatly against God but when God convicted him, David didn't blame Bathsheba nor did he say, "Well, I am the king and I can do whatever I desire to do", but cried out, "I have sinned against God." He repented and received the correction and thus became more blessed and wiser than before. Let's do the same when God speaks correction to our heart through His Word.


Our Father also has instruction for us in His Word that is not for correction but is to bring us to maturity in Christ. Again we see how many reject God's instruction because of pride. Many think that they already know it all. (***1 Corinthians 8:1 - 3***) We need to recognize our full dependency on God and His wise will for our life. We do not have the ability to direct our own lives. Sometimes we think that just because we have some understanding of the Bible, we know it all. But we need the direction of the Spirit to teach us how to apply the Word of God in every situation of our life, everyday of our life. It is of utmost

importance that we maintain a willing heart to learn more and more of this way of love.

David had many experiences with God and understood many things about the will of God but all through his life he cried out to God, “*teach me your ways.*” May we always be teachable before God and His Word that we might be among that group so close to our beloved Lord, being full of eyes, full of understanding and wisdom.

“The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints...”

Ephesians 1:18 (KJV)



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